

URBANA TRAFFIC COMMISSION  
Tuesday, August 5, 2008

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Joe Smith, Senior Civil Engineer  
Mike Bily, Chief of Police

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Dennis Roberts, City Council Member

OTHERS PRESENT:

Pat Pioletti, Parking and Facilities Manager  
Charlie Smyth, Council Member, Ward 1  
Shawn Luesse, 201 West Springfield Avenue, Champaign

The meeting began at 4:01 p.m.

**Additions to the agenda:**

There were no additions to the agenda.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Mike Bily moved to approve the minutes as read. Joe Smith seconded the motion. The Commission voted 2-0 to approve the minutes of the July 2008 meeting.

**Old Business**

There is no old business for discussion.

**New Business**

**Item #1- Discussion of speeding vehicles in cul-de-sac near 2018 East Vermont Street.**

Mike Bily stated that the patrol officers would be made aware of the situation. He would ask that they monitor traffic in that area.

Joe Smith said that he would discuss the issue of overgrown hedges to improve clearance for traffic pulling out of the cul-de-sac.

No other action will be taken.

**Item #2- Discussion of the installation of No Parking Here to Corner signage on Rainbow View at Montgomery Street, Ogelthorpe Avenue and Abercorn Street.**

Joe Smith discussed a call from a citizen who expressed concern about vehicles parking close to the intersection on Rainbow View at Abercorn Street. He said that after observing the parking situation on Rainbow View, he determined that parking restrictions would be appropriate at Ogelthorpe Avenue, Montgomery Street, and Abercorn Street on Rainbow View.

Joe Smith moved to restrict parking from 100 feet to the east and west of the centerlines of Ogelthorpe Avenue and Montgomery Street on Rainbow View and from 100 feet to the west of the centerline of Abercorn Street on Rainbow View.

Mike Bily seconded the motion.

The motion passed 2-0.

This item will go to Council for consideration.

Charlie Smyth asked why the City didn't automatically make the restrictions when the streets are developed.

Joe Smith stated that restrictions were not automatically applied to all streets. He added that the City does not increase the parking restrictions at intersections unless there were problems with visibility.

**Item #3- Discussion of the installation of a stop sign for northbound traffic on Cobble Creek Drive at Amber Lane.**

Joe Smith explained that as development continued in the Stone Creek Subdivision, Amber Lane had become a major traffic feeder. He stated that the Atkins Group had finished some of the residences on Cobble Creek Drive and they had asked for the installation of the stop sign.

Joe Smith moved to install a stop sign on Cobble Creek Drive at Amber Lane for northbound traffic.

Mike Bily seconded the motion.

The motion passed 2-0.

This item will go to Council for consideration.

**Item #4- Discussion of the installation of a crosswalk on Race Street between Iowa Street and Michigan Street.**

Joe Smith stated that the Engineering Division had conducted pedestrian counts at Urbana High School and determined that the warrant for installing a crosswalk had been met.

Joe Smith moved to install a crosswalk on Race Street between Michigan Avenue and Iowa Street from the front of Urbana High School to Carle Park. He said that the yield bars and signage would be installed as part of the project.

Mike Bily seconded the motion.

The motion passed 2-0.

This item does not require Council action. A work order will be issued to complete the project.

Charlie Smyth asked if this project was part of the Safe Routes to School program.

Joe Smith stated that it was separate from that program.

**Item #5- Discussion of the installation of parking restrictions on both sides of Hollywood Alley.**

Joe Smith stated that the alley was a one-way alley with traffic travelling eastbound. After observing parking along the sides of the alley, he felt that parking should be restricted on the south side of the alley. He thought there would be enough room for traffic to travel the alley with parking allowed on the north side. Mr. Smith stated that unless the parking on the north side interfered with maintenance, he did not think it would be problematic.

Shawn Luesse said that he received a letter from the City stating that parking would be restricted on both sides of the alley. He stated that he did not object to the restrictions, but he wanted to make sure that the accessible parking space at the east end of the alley remained since facilities had been constructed to accommodate that parking space. He also expressed concern about whether the development would have sufficient parking as defined in the development agreement with the City if the parking in the alley was eliminated. He said that there were plans to construct additional garages along the south side of the alley and that there were some concrete pads to the north of the alley for parking.

Joe Smith moved to restrict parking on the south side of Hollywood Alley from Vine Street to Anderson Street.

Mike Bily seconded the motion.

The motion passed 2-0.

This item will go to Council for consideration.

Joe Smith said that he would discuss this item further with the Operations Manager to see if there were any outstanding issues that needed to be addressed. He stated that any additional concerns would be addressed at the next Traffic Commission meeting.

**Item #6- Discussion of the elimination of parking meter zone on Park Street between Mathews Avenue and Goodwin Avenue.**

Both Item #6 and Item #7 were discussed concurrently.

**Item #7- Discussion of the installation of parking restrictions on Park Street between Mathews Avenue and Goodwin Avenue.**

Pat Pioletti had discussed these items with the Finance Department and the Parking Enforcement Division. He stated that both agreed that since Provena Hospital had free off-street parking, the need for the metered parking spaces had been reduced. He asked that the meters from Mathews Avenue to Romine Street remain, but he said that the meters from Mathews Avenue to Goodwin Avenue, which averaged about \$1.55 per meter per year, be removed. He added that the cost of monitoring and maintaining those meters was not justified by the use. Mr. Pioletti further explained that the street narrowed at that point which was the reason for requesting parking restrictions in that section of Park Street. He observed that most motorists used the meters between Romine Street and Mathews Street because those spaces were closer to the doors of Provena Hospital.

Mike Bily moved to eliminate the parking meter zone on Park Street between Mathews Avenue and Goodwin Avenue and to restrict parking on both sides of Park Street between Mathews Avenue and Goodwin Avenue.

Joe Smith seconded the motion.

The motion passed 2-0.

This item will go to Council for consideration.

The meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

The next meeting will be held October 7, 2008 at 4:00 p.m. at the Urbana City Building, 400 South Vine Street, second floor conference room. The September meeting of the Urbana Traffic Commission has been cancelled.

Respectfully submitted,  
Barbara Stiehl  
Recording Secretary